Amendments to the Specification:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 14, line 7 as with the following amended paragraph:

--Referring to FIG. 4, spectral reflectance for a photonic crystal fiber is shown calculated for reflection at normal incidence from the side of an exemplary hollow fiber, disclosed in U.S. Serial No. 10/057,258 [————————], entitled "LOW-LOSS PHOTONIC CRYSTAL WAVEGUIDE HAVING LARGE CORE RADIUS " and filed January 25, 2002, now issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,625,364. The fiber is designed to carry light at telecommunications wavelengths centered at 1.55 μm. Nominal values for the refractive indexes and layer thickness are $n_{lo} = 1.5$, $n_{hi} = 2.8$, $d_{330} = 0.363$ μm, $d_{340} = 0.149$ μm. The multilayer cladding has 28 layers, and the core radius is taken to be 15.4 μm. Theoretical reflectance values were calculated using the modeling methods described by Steven G. Johnson et al., "Low-loss asymptotically single-mode propagation in large core OmniGuide fibers," *Optics Express*, 9 (13), pp.748-779 (2001) and references therein, which is incorporated herein by reference. An average over a range of angles of incidence from -10 degrees to +10 degrees is used in the calculation to account for illumination light beam divergence.--